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letters

THE OSWALD BOOKS

CPYRGHT

Because I have always considered it one of the functions of the American press to question and to probe, and especially not to accept without question any "official" canned version of matters of unquestioned public concern, I found the Hugh Aynesworth review of the book on Oswald (Aug. 1) disturbing.

Most of us who continued any interest in the many unanswered aspects of the Kennedy assassination and the Oswald story have been prepared for any number of "exposé" volumes. The Joesten book ("Oswald: Assassin or Fall Guy?") is but the first of them.

Until the Warren Commission releases its report, I believe that thoughtful citizens will reserve any conclusions. This does not, however, preclude any investigation or speculation by the communications industry or private groups.

Joesten presents a thesis which most Americans would find difficult to accept (Oswald as both FBI and CIA agent, implication of some of the military). Yet two responsible and reputable writers, Wise and Ross, have presented the alarming aspect of a super-intelligence system ("CIA: The Invisible Government") which may well have lost touch with the workings of a democracy.

This book has become a best-seller, and those who have read it might find believable this particular Oswald version. And even if we are to dismiss this book as an unfortunate exploitation of a national tragedy, must we also ignore the independent, questioning journalism of such staid journals of opinion and observation as *Commentary*, *New Republic*, *The Nation*, *Reporter* and others who have disputed the "official" version?

Joesten may be all wet, but I would be more impressed with a point-by-point refutation of some of his major assertions than the use of language (i.e., "filth") by your reviewer which raises a question as to whether he is completely dispassionate.

CPYRGHT

For after all, if Oswald was the unlikely FBI agent who could not spell 'wrist,' would he also most unlikely not be the one who authored several well-written letters seeking a link with a pro-Castro group?

I for one will await the Warren report, and hope sincerely that it will lay to rest all the doubts, rumors and unanswered questions which have been presented by others beside Mr. Joesten.

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